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GENERAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2000-2008

X-Ref form
in: []

VIA: AIR
SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH

DISPATCH NO. EAVA-4250

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TO : Chief, EE
Attention: []
FROM : Chief of Base, Vienna
SUBJECT: GENERAL - Operational/Groovy
SPECIFIC: []

DATE: 29 Sep 1953

1. [] has passed a group of 15 reports on individuals who are associated with one exception with either Alois Eder or Willi Hoettl. Included are separate reports on Vera OBERNDORFER, Dr. Edgar KRAUGOTT, Dr. Otto SCHOTT, Erich KERNMAYR, Alois EDER, August RECHSBERGER, Dr. Willibald JEDLITSCHKA, Werner LEHMAN, Edith BERNDT, Johann OBERMULLER, Wilhelm SCHEE, Emil HELM, Heinrich MAST, Dr. Emil von TONGEL, and Stefan SCHWACHERMAYR. Mentioned inter alia in the reports are: Waldemar KERN, Josef SCHEERER, Johann SPECK, Dr. Herbert KRAUS, Viktor BAND, Lixl RINNER, Karl KOWARIK, Anton FELLNER, Alfred PONZ, Josef GODA, Frederick PLACER, Ferdinand DURCANSKY, Franz PESENDORFER, Fritjob RIEDL, Johann GOSTENSCHNIG, Gunther KAUFMANN, Hans RETHENBERG, Otto GRIESMAIER, Anton NICALDONI, Engineer Josef HEGER, Lothar GREIL, Karl KAGERER, Rudoph LEHNER, and Franz STEFFEL.

2. Because of the volume of the reports they are being forwarded raw. The following are general VOB comments concerning the reports:

a. While VOB has some traces on the more prominent of the people reported on (mostly from Grossbahn and []), it is believed that CIC has ample traces.

b. Generally speaking, despite the intelligence activity of such people as Eder, Kernmayr, and Hoettl, they are not of immediate operational interest to the Austrian Mission, and we cannot attempt to do more than keep an eye on the major machinations and realignments involved.

c. The largest portion of these reports consists of biographic data taken from official records. The data concerning past intelligence activity is probably correct since the police keep careful tabs on this genre in Austria. The statements re present affiliations may well also be reliable since they appear to stem from a person close to the group if not in it. It is possible that [] obtained these reports from []. [] has listed Erich Kernmayr and Baron Harry Mast as sources. Karl KRAMER is another [] source who has in the past reported on Eder. From the past record of Kernmayr and his probable knowledge of this group, it appears likely that he is the source.

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d. If the previous patterns of constant realignment common to similar groups applies to the Eder net, it would seem likely that the affiliations shown will be of a temporary rather than a permanent nature.

e. Hoettl and Kernmayr while listed as members of the Eder group are undoubtedly so in the sense that they trade information with Eder rather than being payed for services rendered. Recent intercepts also indicate that relations between Kernmayr and Eder are strained as the result of the "Der Spiegel" article referred to several times in the reports.

3. The following VOB traces were found on the individuals reported on or mentioned in the Greengrocer reports:

✓ a. VON USLAR, fnu: The following card trace on one (Major fnu Von Uslar may concern the subject: Uslar, Major or Hauptmann, member of the Abwehr, commanded a group of North Africans on several missions of reconnaissance and sabotage in Tunisia in 1943; he was in Tunis, Italy and Vienna in 1943 and in Klagenfurt in 1944. Document references are: RIG 555, the Wuenche Report and the Werdnik Interrogation Report.

✓ b. KERNMAYR, Erich: The subject is a notorious intelligence figure and political dabbler in Austria. Recent reports on him are included in EAVA-1254 dated 24 April 1953, EASA-712 dated 19 January 1953, and EAVW-1480 dated 30 June 1953; per EASA-1379 dated 20 May 1953, he is Grameba source "Betti."

✓ c. KONARIK, Karl, Ing.: The subject has been a minor intelligence figure in Austria for several years; he was at one time closely connected with Kernmayr. For recent references see: EASA-1475 dated 14 June 1953, EAVA-2454 dated April 1953, and EAVA-1254 dated 24 April 1953.

✓ d. KRAUS, Herbert: The subject is a leader in the right wing VdU. During the war he was active in intelligence. References are MAV-106 dated 15 August 1947, MAV-913 dated 8 February 1949, PIR-3515 dated 6 April 1949, and SLZ/1955 dated 5 October 1949.

✓ e. NEY, Karl: The subject is identical with Karoley NEY alias Carl KIRCHBERGER. The following background is supplied in MAVA-3301 dated 10 August 1949 and MGFA-1875 dated 18 February 1949: Ney (born 9 November 1906 in Hungary) during the war was associated with both Willi Hoettl and Otto Skorzeny. After the war he worked for a while with CIC on Hungarian targets. In 1949, using the name of Carl Kirchnerger he went to Italy and made contact with the Italian IS. He founded, with the aid of Hartmann LAUTERBACHER (a HJ leader), an organization called the Bolshevik International Organization. It is believed that the subject engaged in intelligence activity in order to finance his political machinations. References include: MAV-2865 dated 18 October 1950; Report by Roland Leapley dated 4 October 1950 subject, "Zako, General Andras and Group"; and SGB-531 dated 18 June 1948.

- f. MASCHER, Josef (Sepp): The subject is a notorious fabricator (formerly connected with Sigfried PETER and Adolf URBAN) who was picked up by the Soviets in 1951. Reports concerning him are: MAV-2026 dated 24 August 1950, MAV-5713 dated 22 September 1950; EAVA-745 dated 27 October 1952; EAVA-2166 dated 19 March 1953; and MAV-2222 dated 20 November 1950.
- g. MAST, Baron Harry: The subject is a well-known intelligence figure in Austria who has in the past been associated with Zipper, CIC, Capote, and Willi Hoettl. He is listed as source "Frieda" of [redacted]. The following references were found inter alia: p/01866 dated 31 July 1950; P/01824 dated 24 July 1950; P/02712 dated 26 February 1951; EASA-1475 dated 14 June 1953; EAVA-2454 dated 20 April 1953; EAVA-2509 dated 28 April 1953; EAVA-2373 dated 16 April 1953; EAVA-1254 dated 24 April 1953; and EASA-1176 dated 10 April 1953.
- h. LAUTERBACHER, fnu: The subject is possibly identical with Hartmann Lauterbacher, the former Hitler Youth leader who with Karoley Ney founded the International Bolshevik Organization in Italy. Hartmann Lauterbacher is mentioned in Rome-2353 dated 2 February 1949, MGFA-1875 dated 18 February 1949, and PIR-3763 dated 11 May 1949.
- i. PONZ, Alfred: An Alfred Ponz is listed on a card reference as being born in Ischl on 17 June 1914 and having fought with the Russians against the Germans. MAV-476 dated 23 April 1948 lists Ponz as a Communist staying at a Vienna hotel.
- j. RIEDL, Fritjof: The subject is a well known Austrian intelligence figure who was formerly closely associated with CIC. The following traces were found: EASA-807 dated 4 February 1953; EASA-711 dated 19 January 1953; EASA-979 dated 12 March 1953; S-17154 (CIC document) dated 17 March 1953.
- k. SLAVIK, Adolf: The subject is the leader of the Soviet sponsored "National Liga" and a former SS officer. A recent reference, EASA-711 dated 19 January 1953, linked him with Josef URBAN. Other references include MAV-2139 dated 23 October 1950; MAV-9672 dated 24 October 1951; and EAVA-2166 dated 19 March 1953.
- l. SCHOTT, Dr. Otto: The subject is mentioned frequently in VOB traces as the head of the Willi Hoettl sponsored Nibelungen Verlag. Recent intercepts indicate that he is now in Germany with a publishing firm, but his standing was injured by the "Der Spiegel" article. References found include: P/02456; EASA-1176 dated 10 April 1953; EASA-1475 dated 14 June 1953; and EAVA-2509 dated 28 April 1953.

m. TONGEL, Emil Von: The subject is probably identical with the fnu Tongel who is described in EASA-1176 dated 10 April 1953 as a resident of Alt Aussee and a former partner in the Nibelungen Verlag. EASA-1254 dated 24 April 1953 refers to Von Tongel as the chief propagandist of the VdU in Upper Austria.

n. TRAUGOTT, Dr. Edgar: The subject is the associate editor of the Oberoesterreichische Nachrichten. A CIC trace (AUS US Zone 1153, Ref 9303, dated 14 March 1951) lists him as sponsor of the Europaeische Aktion. He allegedly attempted to recruit one fnu Slavik into this organization. P/01971 dated 31 September 1951 reports him as the founder of a neutralism movement and as having had connections with Dr. Gustav CANAVAL. He is also mentioned as a contact of Otto Schott in EASA-1254 dated 24 April 1953.

o. FELLNER, Anton: Fellner is believed identical with the subject of EASA-819 dated 5 February 1953.

p. EDER, Alois: Eder is at present the representative of Capote in Austria per EASA-1176 dated 10 April 1953. Several [] reports on Eder were attached to EASA-1734 and EASA-1172 dated 8 April 1953; he is also referred to in EASA-1254 dated 24 April 1953.

q. HOETTL, Willi: The subject is a notorious intelligence figure in Austria who was recently reported on in connection with the Tophole case. VOB file traces indicate that Hoettl material is abundantly available in Headquarters' files.

r. GOSTENSCHNIK, Johann: EASA-711 dated 19 January 1953, a Grossbahn report on Richard KAUDER, lists one Hans Gostenschnik (born 7 February 1909 in Graz, address: Gabelsbergstrasse 36, Salzburg) as a former member of Ast 3, Belgrade, and presently a businessman in Salzburg.

s. GAISWINKLER, Albrecht: The subject is mentioned in EAVA-2271 by Hoettl, who stated that Ponger was particularly interested in Gaiswinkler.

t. HEGER, Ing. Josef: One Josef Heger, possibly identical with the subject, is described as a CIC subsource and a former Nationalrat for the VdU. He was approached by one Hermann JACKL (a registered CIC source) and offered a job working for the RIS. Heger reported the offer to another CIC source. SOI-V-9564 dated 12 January 1950 lists Heger as the founder of a group called the National Demokratischer Verband. Collaborators were stated to be, inter alia, Erich Kernmayr and Adolf Slavik. It was Nazi in membership and reportedly sponsored by the Soviets.

u. NICALADONE, Anton: The subject may be identical with or related to one Herbert Nicaladone, SS Untersturmfuehrer and staff member of the

Kommandeur fuer Spezial Abwehr (a Skorzeny unit) in Vienna, whose interrogation was reported on in SOB/1660 dated 13 August 1953.

v. SCHEE, Wilhelm: EASA-475 dated 14 June 1953 identifies the subject as an ex-employee of the Nibelungen Verlag and states that there may be an intelligence connection between him and Hoettl.

w. SCHAEERER, Josef: One Josef (Sepp) Scheerer is mentioned in SALZ-995 dated 17 February 1953.

x. KRAMMER, Karl: Subject is described in EASA-712 dated 19 January 1953 as the SPOe Land Secretary in Upper Austria and controller of SPOe intelligence for that area.

y. GREIL, Lothar: The subject is described in P/02876 dated 25 April 1951 as the junior assistant and private secretary to Eric Kernmayr.

z. SCHACHERMAYR, Stefan: Schachermayr is described in SBG-1073 dated 17 January 1951 (source Kernmayr) as one of the leaders of the group that split off from the Kernmayr circle to adhere to Adolf Slavik. Previously he had been a close adherent of Kernmayr.

aa. FESENDORFER, Franz: Subject is described in P/03264 dated 29 August 1951 as being in close contact with Erich Kernmayr concerning a new "Austrian middle party."

bb. SCHWARZKOPF, Georg: Subject was formerly closely connected with CIC Salzburg. A recent reference is EASA-711 dated 19 January 1953.

cc. REIMANN, Dr. Viktor: For references on the subject see MAV-1366 and P/01176.

Attachment: 15 raw reports

17 September 1953

Distribution:

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1 - []
1 - Gratias
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